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TO: Debbie M. Le
FIRM: U.S.P.T.O.
FACSIMILE No.: (703) 872-9306
OUR REF.: QSOFT.050A
APPL. No.: 09/713,479
FROM: John R. King
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : Romine, et al.
Appl. No. : 09/713,479
Filed : November 15, 2000
For : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
QUIESCING SELECT DATA
MODIFICATION OPERATIONS
AGAINST AN OBJECT OF A
DATABASE DURING ONE OR
MORE STRUCTURAL
OPERATIONS
Examiner : Debbie M. Le
Group Art Unit : 2177

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I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

6/14/04
(Date)
John R. King, Reg. No. 34,362

RESPONSE TO MARCH 9, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In order to prepare for the upcoming interview scheduled on June 16, 2004 at 12:00 p.m., the Examiner has requested that we submit an agenda regarding the matters to be discussed.

In brief, we plan on discussing the differences between the cited references and embodiments of the invention. In particular, we plan on discussing how U.S. Patent No. 6,519,613 to Friske et al. (the "Friske patent") and how U.S. Patent No. 6,122,640 to Pereira (the "Pereira patent") do not describe the process of providing a partial lock on an table during reorganization.

Partial Blocking of Transactions During Reorganization

While a number of differences exist, generally speaking the Friske patent appears to describe a system that reorganizes a database by making a copy of the unorganized database. The unorganized database then remains accessible while the copy is being reorganized. During this reorganization process, data requests send to the unorganized database are not blocked.

Likewise the Pereira patent appears to describe a system that reorganizes a database by making a copy of the unorganized database. Like the Friske patent, the Pereira patent also appears to disclose that the unorganized database remains fully accessible during the reorganization process.

Applicant's invention, in contrast, partially blocks the unorganized database during reorganization. That is, certain transactions are blocked during reorganization, while other transactions are not blocked. Neither the Friske patent nor the Pereira patent teach the concept of partially blocking certain transactions during the reorganization process.

Accessibility of the Reorganized Database

In another embodiment of Applicant's invention, the reorganized database remains accessible while substituting the reorganized database with the unorganized database.

In contrast, both the Friske patent and the Pereira patent appear to describe systems wherein the unorganized database and the reorganized database are temporarily inaccessible while the reorganized database is substituted for the unorganized database.

Thus, neither of the cited references describes how to ensure that the reorganized database remains accessible during substitution.

We look forward to conducting the interview. In addition, William Romine, one of the inventors, plans on attending the interview. If you have any other questions, please call me at 949-721-2998.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 6/14/04

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